

COLUMBIA RIVER TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

October 12, 2011

Facilitator's Summary

Facilitator: Doug Baus, COE

The TMT meeting on October 12, 2011, was chaired and facilitated by Doug Baus, COE. The Official Meeting Minutes are provided below in-lieu of a facilitator's summary.

Columbia River Regional Forum **TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OFFICIAL MINUTES**

October 12, 2011

Notes: Pat Vivian

1. Introduction

Today's TMT meeting was chaired and facilitated by Doug Baus, COE. Representatives of the COE, BPA, USFWS, NOAA, Oregon, Idaho and others attended. This summary is an official record of the proceedings, not a verbatim transcript.

2. Review Meeting Minutes for October 5

Review was postponed until the next TMT meeting because the minutes and notes had not yet been posted to the TMT site.

3. Follow-up on Winter Spill Priority List

The COE introduced a proposed list for winter spill at last week's TMT meeting, with the goal of implementing it today unless there were objections. FPAC had not yet discussed the list as of today. Hearing no objections today, the COE would implement the list as proposed, while leaving the door open for TMT members to propose changes.

4. Bonneville Dam MOP Operation for Condit Dam Breaching

The COE has received a letter from CRITFC requesting a special operation of Bonneville forebay during the removal of Condit Dam on October 26, Baus reported. The COE will be able to implement CRITFC's request for a lower Bonneville pool operation. However, the letter requests a minimum operation of 70 feet elevation which the COE won't be able to meet because that elevation is below the normal minimum operating elevation of 71.5 feet. The COE has discussed with CRITFC its commitment to operate within a 1.5-foot band (71.5-73.0 feet elevation) as a hard constraint and a 1-foot band (71.5-72.5 feet elevation) as a soft constraint. The operation would begin on October 26 with the breaching of the dam and last for approximately 3 days. However, a delay in the dam breaching schedule or another operational requirement could require

modifications to the Corps' planned operation. For example, repairs of the B-branch fish ladder at Bonneville could affect the COE's ability to achieve the requested operation.

A day or two before the dam breaching on October 26, Lisa Wright, COE, will post to the TMT webpage a link to a live feed of the event.

5. Operations Review

Reservoirs. Grand Coulee is at elevation 1286.4 feet, holding flat flows and slowly filling. Hungry Horse is at elevation 3549.25 feet, releasing 1.7 kcfs to meet the Columbia Falls minimum. Inflows are around 1.2-1.3 kcfs. Libby is at elevation 2447.52 feet, with inflows of 6.2 kcfs and releases of 4.0 kcfs. Albeni Falls is at elevation 2056.46 feet with inflows of 15.2 kcfs and releases of 27.1 kcfs. Dworshak is at elevation 1518.89 feet, with inflows of 2.9 kcfs and releases of 1.7 kcfs.

Lower Granite previous day average discharges were 21.2 kcfs. McNary discharges were 107.7 kcfs. Bonneville discharges were 125.2 kcfs.

Fish. Juveniles: Subyearlings have been passing Lower Granite at the rate of 121-309 per day and Little Goose at the rate of 52-100 per day for the past week, Paul Wagner reported. This pace should continue for another week or two. Trucking at Little Goose daily and at Lower Granite every other day will cease at the end of October.

Adults: Fall chinook numbers are winding down, Cindy LeFleur, Washington, reported. Steelhead passage is also nearly complete. A late run of coho will continue through this month. Wagner asked whether any chum have been caught as part of the lower river fishery. There's a fishery tomorrow and possibly one next week, which would be the last, LeFleur replied. Wagner reported that spawning surveys have found chinook and coho redds in the Ives Island area, but no chum yet.

Water quality. There was nothing to report today.

Power. There was nothing to report today.

7. Next Meeting

The next regular TMT meeting will be held at NOAA on October 26. Chum operations, Condit Dam breaching, a Bonneville pool update including the B-branch repair, and the winter spill priority list will be on the agenda.

Name	Affiliation
Doug Baus	COE

Joel Fenolio	COE
Karl Kanbergs	COE
Lisa Wright	COE
Tony Norris	BPA
Dave Wills	USFWS
Paul Wagner	NOAA
Rick Kruger	Oregon
Scott Bettin	BPA
Kim Johnson	COE
Cindy LeFleur	Washington

Phone:

Russ Kiefer	Idaho
Margaret Filardo	FPC
Dave Benner	FPC
Shane Scott	PPC
Glen Trager	Iberdrola
Richelle Beck	Grant Co. PUD
Ruth Burris	PGE
Laura Hamilton	COE